AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising substantially optically pure ~~enantiomer~~ diasteriomer (S,S) ~~-s~~S-adenosyl-l-methionine or a defined non-racemic ratio of (S,—S) ~~-s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine : (R,S)- ~~s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine, their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier

2. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 1 wherein the defined non-racemic ratio of (S,S)-~~s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine : (R,S)-~~s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine is about 80% to about 100% : about 20% to about 0% by weight respectively.

3. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 1 wherein the defined non-racemic ratio of (S,S) ~~-s-adenosylmethionine~~ -S-adenosyl-l-methionine : (R,S)-~~s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine is about 95 % to about 100% : about 5% to about 0% by weight respectively.

4. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt for each ~~enantiomer~~ diasteriomer is selected from the group consisting of : a lipophilic salt of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine~~(SAM)~~ of the formula S-adenosyl-l-methionine~~SAM~~.sup.n+ [R--CO--NH--(CH.sub.2).sub.2 --SO.sup.-.sub.3].sub.n in which R-CO is a member selected from the group consisting of C.sub.12-C.sub.26 saturated and unsaturated, linear and branched acyl and C.sub.12 -C.sub.26 cycloalkyl-substituted acyl, and n is an integer from 3 to 6 according to the S-adenosyl-l-methionine ~~SAM~~ charge ; double salts corresponding to the formula S-adenosyl-

l-methionine ~~SAM~~.sup.+.HSO.sub.4.sup.-.H.sub.2 SO.sub.4 .2 CH.sub.3 C.sub.6 H.sub.4 SO.sub.3 H. ; salts (S, S) ~~-s-adenosylmethionine~~ S-adenosyl-l-methionine with sulphonic acids selected from the group consisting of methanesulphonic, ethanesulphonic, 1-n-dodecanesulphonic, 1-n-octadecanesulphonic, 2-chloroethanesulphonic, 2-bromoethanesulphonic, 2-hydroxyethanesulphonic, 3-hydroxypropanesulphonic, d-,l-,d,l-10-camphorsulphonic, d-,l-,d,l-3-bromocamphor-10-sulphonic, cysteic, benzenesulphonic,p-chlorobenzenesulphonic, 2-mesitylbenzenesulphonic, 4-biphenylsulphonic, 1-naphthalenesulphonic, 2-naphthalenesulphonic, 5-sulphosalicylic, p-acetylbenzenesulphonic, 1,2-ethanedisulphonic, methanesulphonic acid, ethanesulphonic acid, 1-n-dodecanesulphonic acid, 1-n-octadecanesulphonic acid, 2-chloroethanesulphonic acid, 2-bromoethanesulphonic acid,2-hydroxyethanesulphonic acid, d-,l-,d,l-10-camphorsulphonic acid, d-,l-,d,l-3-bromocamphor-10-sulphonic acid, cysteic acid , benzenesulphonic acid, 3-hydroxypropanesulphonic acid, 2-mesitylbenzenesulphonic acid, p-chlorobenzenesulphonic acid,4-biphenylsulphonic acid, 2-naphthalenesulphonic acid, 5-sulphosalicylic acid, 1,2-ethanedisulphonic acid, p-acetylbenzenesulphonic acid, 1-naphthalenesulphonic acid, o-benzenedisulphonic and chondroitinesulphuric acids, and double salts of said acids with sulphuric acid; S-adenosyl-L-methionine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and an effective amount of a lithium salt selected from the group consisting of lithium chloride, lithium bromide, lithium iodide, lithium sulfate, lithium nitrate, lithium phosphate, lithium borate, lithium carbonate, lithium formate, lithium acetate, lithium citrate, lithium succinate and lithium benzoate; water-soluble salt of a bivalent or trivalent metal is a member selected from the group consisting of calcium chloride, ferric chloride, magnesium chloride, and magnesium sulfate; the salt of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine is a member selected from the group consisting

of salts of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine with hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, phosphoric acid, formic acid, acetic acid, citric acid, tartaric acid, and maleic acid; and a double salt of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine with said acids; a salt of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine and a water-soluble polyanionic substance selected from the group consisting of a polyphosphate, metaphosphate, polystyrene sulfonate, polyvinyl sulfonate, polyvinyl sulfate, polyvinyl phosphate, and polyacrylate wherein the stoichiometric ratio of mols of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine to gram-equivalent of the polyanionic substance is from 0.1:1 to 0.5; a salt of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine wherein the polyanionic substance is a polyphosphate, para-polystyrene sulfonate or metaphosphate; a salt of the general formula: S-adenosyl-l-methionine~~SAM-e~~.nR(O).sub.m (SO.sub.3 H)p (I) where m can be zero or 1; n is 1.5 when p is 2, and is 3 when p is 1; R is chosen from the group consisting of alkyl, phenylalkyl and carboxyalkyl, in which the linear or branched alkyl chain contains from 8 to 18 carbon atoms, and in particular for producing S-adenosyl-l-methionine~~SAM-e~~ salts of sulphonic acids, or of sulphuric acid esters, or of dioctylsulphosuccinic acid;

5. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt for each ~~enantiomer~~ diasteriomer is selected from the group consisting of bisulfate; tri-p-toluenesulfonate; chloride, carbonate, bicarbonate, bromide, chloride, iodide, hydrochloride.

6. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as described in claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt for each ~~enantiomer~~ diasteriomer is selected from the group consisting of double and single salts of S-adenosyl-~~L~~l-methionine with sulphuric acid and p-toluenesulphonic acid.

Claims 7-13 (Cancelled)

Conclusion:

The applicant, in a phone conversation with the examiner on July 25, 2003, recognized the nature of the examiner's objections to the claims of the present patent application and will elect before the allotted time period, to prosecute the methods claims which the applicant had previously elected not to pursue. However, in order to comply with the office action dated 8.29.03 regarding the present application, the applicant submits this amendment nevertheless.

Applicant kindly thanks Examiner for suggestions.

Very respectfully,

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